Galactic empires are a common trope used in science fantasy and science fiction, particularly in works known as 'space operas'. Many authors have either used a galaxy-spanning empire as background or written about the growth and/or decline of such an empire. The capital of a galactic empire is frequently a core world, such as a planet relatively close to a galaxy's supermassive black hole, which has advanced considerably in science and technology compared to current human civilization.

An institute to preserve the best of galactic civilization after the collapse of the Galactic Empire.

Previously, the preservation of knowledge—thought of in the broadest way to include not just material from books and journals, but collections of other objects (and their vital meta-data) such as photos, paintings, prints, sculptures, cultural objects, sound recordings, video, film, scientific data—was

the almost exclusive preserve of the library and museum. It is this accumulated knowledge, in all its immensity and complexity, that provides the fundamental and essential foundation for the first two missions of a university—for research and for education. But access to this knowledge has often been place-dependent and it has not been broadly accessible or shareable.